



Together For Kids and Families

Early Care & Education Work Group Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 22, 2015

Welcome & Introductions

Mary Beth welcomed meeting attendees and facilitated introductions.

Attendees

Amy Bornemeier, Jennifer Goettemoeller, Tracy Gordon, Jennifer Haggart, Sarah Ann Kotchian, Joan Luebbbers, Courtney Pfeifer, Mary Beth Pistillo, Linda Reddish, Kim Texel, and Tiffany Mullison

Review Meeting Summary from November 12, 2014

The group accepted the Meeting Summary as presented.

Work Plan Updates

- Jen facilitated a discussion on Strategy 8 and the progress as a result of Step Up to Quality.
- Amy provided an overview of the Alternative Response teams in Lincoln. Many of the AR goals/strategies are similar to TFKF. Both Amy and Tracy are on the AR team for Lancaster County.

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Update

- Toxic Stress Steering Committee update – Tiffany shared that the 20 member Steering Committee convened in July has committed to continue meeting monthly throughout 2015. ECE member on the Steering Committee: Joan Luebbbers
- The group reviewed suggestions for a work group project, looking back on suggestions from February 2014 and discussing what fit best in the updated work plan.
 - The group decided on 2 projects
 1. Produce then disseminate hard copies of the *Toxic Stress in Infants and Toddlers* kits developed by A4F [includes CD-ROM, reference guide, brochure]. Tiffany will send an email to all ECE members, asking for the quantity of kits requested and possible additional recipients.
 2. Purchase and disseminate social emotional tool kits. The kits are available through Teaching Strategies, LLC for \$149.99/each. Update: Mary Beth and Lauri Cimino at NDE prepared an order for 15 kits; the kits will be given to the Coaches across the state.

Member Sharing

- Step Up to Quality, Mary Beth shared updates
 - 90 programs have registered; half are center based, half are family homes.
 - Orientation will be available on line soon and continue to be available face to face.
 - NDE contracted with APA Consulting in Colorado to evaluate Step Up.
- NDE Staffing – Kristine Luebbe is on maternity leave.
- Early Childhood Data Coalition meets Friday, February 27 at FFN
- Legislative Update
 - 655 bills were introduced in the session
 - Jen passed out a handout with summaries of LB489 and LB547 [see attached].
 - FFN website maintains a list of bills related to early childhood. Link:
<http://firstfivebraska.org/public-policy-legislation/nebraska-legislation>
- Early Childhood Professional Development Institute is hosting a training *Components of Quality: The What, Why and How*, July 23-25 in Kearney [see attached].
- Sixpence – Amy shared that Sixpence has 25 grantees, with a total of 33 programs. RFP is on their website.

2015 Meetings are scheduled for March 19, May 21, July 16, September 17 & November 19, at FFN